

WAIS into the Future

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Where Are We?

Why Are We Here?

- Publishing is exploding
- Information access opens doors
- Global communication is moving past paper
 - faster, cheaper, more inclusive

Where Are We Going?

- **Federal information sharing**
 - Library of Congress, USGS, NASA, EPA, DOE, Intelligence, etc.
- **Commercial publishers**
- **Many vendors and integrators**

Fun Developments

- **Multiple languages**
- **Multimedia**
- **Developing countries participation**
- **Standards based**
- **Copyright issues are being solved,
electronic billing**
- **Enhanced security systems**

So What?

- **Information:**
 - Cheap (1 penny per copy)
 - Fast (A book in 10 seconds)
 - Global (40 countries online now)
 - Personal (See what YOU want to see)
- **Why? WAIS is a standard without opponents**
- **US is leading in this frontier**